

Name:

Date:

## StoryCorps Project

### Introduction

You will work on a StoryCorps assignment that allows you to explore the skill of storytelling as well as the skill of interviewing. As you have seen (or heard) in previous examples of StoryCorps stories, there are some common principles behind each story: One person describes an impactful moment(s) in their life through an interview with a family member, friend, or acquaintance. For this assignment, you will create a StoryCorps story of your own. In fact, you will work on two -- one as an **interviewer** (the person doing the interview) and one as an **interviewee** (the person being interviewed).

### Summary of Assignment

- 1) You will work on **two** StoryCorps stories with a partner of your choice (it can be **anyone** in the 7th grade!):
  - a) You will **interview your partner** for one of the stories.
  - b) **Your partner will interview you** for the other story.
- 2) Each story should focus on a **value**, one that has had a big impact in the person's life. (ex. Family, friendship, courage, respect, honesty, etc.)
- 3) After finishing both interviews, you will need to listen to the interview you conducted with your partner (i.e. *where **you** asked the questions*) to select what you think is the best part of that interview. When you send your interview to Mr. Green, please indicate which section of the interview he should listen to.
  - a) For example: "Please listen to the interview from 1:15-2:32."

### Requirements

#### ***As the INTERVIEWEE (person being interviewed):***

- Talk about a meaningful moment in your life in an interview with another student that relates to a particular value
- Speak clearly
- Elaborate -- avoid monosyllabic (one syllable) answers and responding with "I don't know"
- Take yourself and your story seriously -- this is not a time to be an entertainer or a clown, but to reflect on an important moment in your life

***As the INTERVIEWER (person doing the interview):***

- Choose a theme, and then choose a specific topic to discuss with your partner. You may need to talk to your partner about some values that are important to them.
- Talk to your partner: Tell them the theme you will be focusing on in the interview. Do not give any details other than the theme; the interview should be as authentic as possible (i.e. the story is not planned out ahead of time)
- Prepare and ask interesting, thoughtful questions about the topic
- Stay focused
- Ask follow-up questions where appropriate
- Listen, and be patient -- it may take time for your partner to open up to you
- Take yourself out of the story -- The **story** is the focus, not the interviewer

***As both Interviewer and Interviewee***

- Write a **reflection** on the StoryCorps process. Mr. Green will provide this for you. The reflections will ask a few different questions, such as:
  - What was different about the experience of being interviewed vs. interviewing them?
  - Which did you prefer? Why?
  - What would you have done differently if you did it over again?

**TENTATIVE Due Dates**

**Monday, April 9:**

**Choose your partner for the project**

**Tuesday, April 10 (A/B/E/F) and Friday, April 13 (D):**

**Write out the questions for your StoryCorps project**

**Tuesday, April 17 (B) and Wednesday, April 19 (A/D/E/F):**

**StoryCorps project is due**